UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

October 24, 2007

Bart Clark
Project Manager
District of Columbia Department of Transportation
64 New York Avenue
Washington DC 20002

> **Subject: 11th Street Bridges Project, Anacostia Freeway (I-295/DC 295) to the Southeast/Southwest Freeway (I-695), Washington, DC. Final Environmental Impact Statement CEQ# 20070417**

Dear Mr. Clark:

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the 11th Street Bridges project and offers the following comments.

The proposed project will reconstruct and reconfigure the interchange of the Southeast/Southwest Freeway and the Anacostia Freeway over the Anacostia River in Southwest Washington DC. The project will reconstruct the two bridges, and reconfigure interchanges to and from the bridges. There will also be the addition of wide, shared-use paths for pedestrian use tied into existing trails on both sides of the river. The preferred alternative selected in the FEIS is a hybrid alternative of Build Alternative 1 west of the river and Build Alternative II east of the river.

Upon review of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), EPA has no remaining environmental concerns for the impacts of this project. As stated in our comments to the Draft EIS we commend the Agency for the proactive approach taken in the development of this EIS by providing information in support of this project review during the development of the EIS. The information and structure of the EIS report was very clear and understandable and the response to comments section was particularly easy to track. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the FEIS. Should you have any questions regarding our comments on this project, please contact me at 215-814-3367.

Sincerely,

William Arguto
NEPA Team Leader
Environmental Programs Branch